

DRIVE MECHANISM EMPLOYING ELECTROMECHANICAL TRANSDUCER AND METHOD FOR CONTROLLING THE DRIVE MECHANISM

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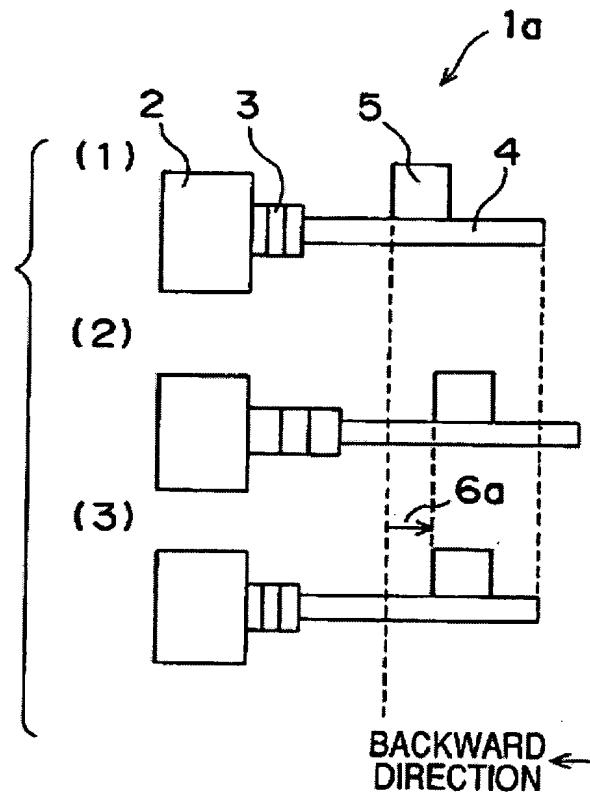
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Abstract of US2004012304

An actuator using vibration caused by a piezoelectric element. The actuator includes: an driving rod bonded to one of the piezoelectric element; a engaging member for engaging frictionally with the driving rod; and a control circuit for applying the piezoelectric element with a driving voltage. The control circuit is provided with a drive circuit which generates a first set of the driving voltage for driving the engaging member, and with a friction reducing circuit which generates a second set of the driving voltage for reducing a frictional force exerting between the driving rod and the engaging member.



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